

**SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN
(PUBLIC PARTICIPATION)**

June 6, 2006

7:00 PM

Mayor Guinta called the meeting to order.

Mayor Guinta called for the Pledge of Allegiance, this function being led by Alderman Gatsas.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Aldermen Roy, Gatsas, Long, Duval, Osborne, Pinard, O’Neil,
Lopez, Shea, DeVries, Garrity, Smith, and Forest

Absent: Alderman Thibault

Mayor Guinta stated before we do the public session I would like to have Alderman Osborne please join me up front. We have a very distinct honor this evening to recognize somebody in our community who I am pleased and Alderman Osborne is certainly pleased to recognize this evening who certainly has embodied I think by virtue of the distinction bestowed upon him by *NH Magazine* as one of the top doctors in the state five years running. When Alderman Osborne brought it to my attention I thought it was very fitting to honor this individual. I wanted to bring Dr. Lawrence Hepp forward. I certainly hope that I don’t need your services but if I do I know that I will be in good hands. I am very honored to be joined by Alderman Osborne to present you with a key to the City and it reads,

“In tribute for his recognition as New Hampshire’s top doctor in the specialties of general and vascular surgeries, Dr. Hepp has earned the respect of both peers and patients having served our community for over 28 years. He is truly an asset to the healthcare network in the Manchester region.
s/Mayor Frank Guinta, June 6,2006”

Dr. Lawrence Hepp stated I am not going to take very long because I know a lot of you people have the budget on your mind but I certainly would sincerely like to thank Mayor Guinta and the Aldermen for bestowing this honor and especially by friend, Ed, and his accomplice Bob Desmarais who were at the grass roots of getting this started. People have said it takes a village but in the medical community it really does take a village. Not everybody believes that but in the medical community all of the physicians in this town, and I have been here 28 years, it has been an amazing growth of expertise in the physicians and the technological growth in the City and in honor of the entire medical community I accept this award. I would like to take just one other second to thank so many people and I have to

break it down real quick, the administrators at the hospital, Beth Hughes and Doug Dener here from the Elliot and also the CMC administrators who are very helpful in pushing forward new technologies, my office staff with Cindy Maoki my administrator who has been fantastic. You have to have a great office staff for support. My children. Many times I have missed a lot of their games and their school activities and they have still been very supportive. My wife. What more can I say? Pat would you stand up and at least accept my hand. She has done more than anybody can ask. She has raised six children by herself practically and delivered one at home. She goes to events that I can't go to. She went to my 30th medical school reunion because I was tied up on the weekend. I certainly want to thank her because I wouldn't be here without her and all of my children I thank them for all of their help.

Alderman Osborne stated I would like to recognize a couple of more doctors here with their wives. Dr. Tenn and his wife. Then we have Dr. Desmarais and his wife. I, myself, have known Dr. Hepp for many years when he was on Wilson Street in Dr. Desmarias' building. I do want to thank everybody for coming, especially his staff. I have known him quite awhile and really he is an inspiration to this community. There is no doubt in my mind and on behalf of the other Aldermen here I want to congratulate him. He is top doctor, top surgeon, top vascular surgeon, top general surgeon. There are numerous things I have on this paper but too many to read. I really thank him for coming and I appreciate him for everything he has done.

Mayor Guinta advised that the purpose of the special meeting is to give residents of Manchester the opportunity to address the Board on items of concern affecting the community; that each person will be given only one opportunity to speak; that comments shall be limited to three minutes to allow all participants the opportunity to speak and any comments must be directed to the Chair.

Mayor Guinta requested that any resident wishing to speak come forward to the nearest microphone, clearly state their name and address when recognized, and give their comments.

Glenn R.J. Ouellette, 112 Auburn Street, Manchester stated:

There have been some rules changing here in the City and in the state and federal government that pertain to handicapped people and their parking spaces. We have people in the City that live what some people might be aware of as a living aide, someone who lives with them so they can stay out of a nursing home or hospital. That parking space that they have in that apartment building is assigned to that living aide but it isn't that living aide that actually is disabled. It is the patient. It was brought to my attention that because of the change of law people's cars are being towed from these parking spaces because they don't have the proper recognition as disabled even though they were assigned to work for these patients. What are we coming to? It is incredible. You need to contact the Congressmen and change this but more disturbing is that this is happening in private lots. People's homes.

I am not talking parking lots at grocery stores. I am talking apartment buildings. The intrusion is getting too great. That is all I am going to say on that. The other topic has to do with the water. Now that we have got the attention of the government with the flooding, please apply for a maintenance grant. 80% of your drains are loaded with dirt. That is why they float. They work better when it is dry. This City does not do a good job in cleaning its drainage system. I have been here almost 20 years now and the only time you see someone out there cleaning them is when they have to fix them. They wouldn't have to fix them so often if we cleaned them. Thank you.

Will Thomas, 27 Margate Drive, Auburn stated:

I was born and raised here and taught for over 30 years at Central High School. I am currently the Coordinator of NH Veterans for Peace and I represent the Peace Veterans who were stopped by the Manchester Police and tossed out of the parade on Memorial Day. We were expelled from the parade for allegedly marching with political signs. The signs said, "Support the Troops. Bring Them Home." Prior to the actual start of the parade, two of our veterans, one a World War II veteran and the other a Korean War veteran, had the two alleged political signs and they were asked to take them down. They did so. This was before the parade commenced. As the parade began we started to march and approximately 10 minutes into the march a policeman stopped us, put his hands up in front of us and said get to the side of the road. Of course, the first question was well why are we being forced to the side of the road. He gave no response except to say get to the side of the road or else I will arrest you. The question was on what charge. Disrupting or disturbing the peace. Well, we felt he was, himself, disrupting the peace, but we reluctantly went to the side of the road. Upon further questioning, again we inquired who is responsible? Who told you to stop us? We got no answer. By the way, the veterans who marched, as I said one was a World War II veteran, two Korean War veterans, four Vietnam Combat Veterans, three of whom are still currently in counseling 38 years after they left Vietnam at the VA hospital in therapy for post traumatic stress disorder...so why were we being ejected from the parade. We still didn't receive a response. We never received a cogent response. So after being publicly embarrassed and humiliated as Cub Scouts were passing us by, two middle school bands and we are on the sidewalk...people who have served our country proudly with honor, we are out of the parade. So we thought we were being treated rather rudely and with great disrespect. So we later found out that our two banners said "Veterans of Peace Honor our Fallen" and the other just had our logo "Veterans for Peace." They were not political at all. Well to make a long story short we have asked for apologies from the Manchester Police Department. I sent two letters to the Chief. I received a phone call this morning from a Lieutenant who said there was an investigation ongoing and we are still looking for an apology from the Manchester Veteran's Council, three of whom privately apologized to me but our organization would like a public apology. To wrap this up, this Board should be concerned about this because you are the Board that funds the parades, including the Veterans Day and Memorial Day parade. Thank you very much.

Maureen Molly Lee Sherman, Manchester stated:

I use the Library a lot and I know it is valuable. I am asking for the Library budget to include money for the new heating and air conditioning system. I would appreciate it. Thank you.

Russell Hobbs, 23 Country Club Drive #2, Manchester stated:

I appeared before the Traffic Committee when they were about to make parking on one side of the street on Country Club Drive. There was going to be a horrendous parking problem. What has resulted since then is that people are parking almost into our driveway. There isn't hardly a day...the response I had was call the Police Department. Well if I call the Police Department every time there was somebody parked there they would be up there four or five times a day. I had requested that signs be put on both sides of the driveway to keep those people from obstructing our view because when we come out of the parking lot we can't see when cars are parked...especially SUV's. A lot of times they are parked right on the curb of the driveway. I talked to Alderman Forest. He was surprised the signs weren't up. He said he told Mr. Lolicata to put them up. I called the Traffic Department and they said it hasn't gone through the Aldermen. It has gone through the Committee but it hasn't gone through the Aldermen. Well if it is up for a vote tonight, I sure hope you get it approved and get those signs up there. I don't think the Police Department is going to like it if we call every single time there are cars parked there and it happens all the time.

Alderman Forest stated the ordinance for those signs was passed at the last Aldermanic meeting. It was passed; they are just waiting for the requirements of the law because they have to post it. I talked to Denise this morning. It was passed. You just have to wait until the ordinance takes effect. Other than that, it has all been done.

Mr. Hobbs asked how long is that.

Alderman Forest answered probably another two weeks. We passed it at the last Aldermanic meeting, which was two weeks ago.

Mr. Hobbs stated well the Police Department is going to start getting a bunch of calls then. It is a traffic hazard.

There being no one else present wishing to speak, on motion of Alderman Pinard, duly seconded by Alderman Roy, it was voted to take all comments under advisement and further to receive and file any written documentation presented.

This being a special meeting of the Board, no further business was presented and on motion of Alderman Roy, duly seconded by Alderman Gatsas it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.

City Clerk